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ISSN: 0035-9289 (Print) (Online) Journal homepage: http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rusi19

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To cite this article: Major-General Nigel Woodyatt C.B., C.I.E. (1922) The Territorials (Infantry) in India, 1914–1920, Royal United Services Institution. Journal, 67:468, 717-737, DOI: 10.1080/03071842209420229

To link to this article: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03071842209420229

Published online: 11 Sep 2009.

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THE TERRITORIALS (INFANTRY) IN INDIA, 1914—1920.

By MAJOR-GENERAL NIGEL WOODYATT, C.B., C.I.E.

On Wednesday, 11th October, 1922, at 3 p.m.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR E. C. BETHUNE, K.C.B., C.V.O., in the Chair.

THE CHAIRMAN: It is my privilege to introduce to you this afternoon, Major-General Nigel Woodyatt, who is to give a lecture on a subject which is of great interest to all of us, namely, the work of the Territorial Forces as it appeared to an expert who was in India at the time. The last I saw of the Territorials in 1914 was when, as Director-General of the Territorial Forces, I saw them off at Southampton and they disappeared into the night; and I am sure we shall listen with much interest to what the lecturer has to say on the subject of how they kept up the name and traditions of the Territorial Force in India. I am presiding over a lecture which is going to deal with work that was done, and jolly well done, in India by the rather despised Territorial Forces. With those few words I introduce to you Major-General Nigel Woodyatt, and ask him to deliver his lecture.

LECTURE.

WHEN I was invited—and accepted the invitation—to lecture on the subject of the transfer of some 55,000 Territorial Infantry to India, during the Great War, I little thought I should find myself up against so difficult a task.

In the first place, unless one is a Territorial officer—which I am not—it is almost impossible to understand the venture properly, or to know as much about the "ins and outs" of the matter as one would like to. Secondly, my text is taken from a chapter written on this subject in a book called "Under Ten Viceroys." This alone is a serious handicap, because of the desire to avoid too much repetition. Yet I feel that in reality what was condensed in that chapter is nearly all that I am justified, by my knowledge, in saying about the Territorials. Lastly, I was not in England when they embarked, and therefore have to rely on hearsay for many points.

On the other hand I hold some advantages. I have much sympathy with this body of men in their trials, their sacrifices and their disappointments. This helps me to feel for them. Again, I have a great admiration for the splendid work they did in India, of which I saw so much, and

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regarding the merits of which I hope to convince you. Finally, I am longing to give some kind of tribute to the Territorials for their patriotism, self-sacrifice and devotion to duty.

I do not propose to give you a lot of statistics; they are often confusing, and I am hoping instead that our Chairman to-day will enlighten us as regards the names of the various divisions, and where they went to in India, such as the " Wessex " to the Punjab, etc.

My first acquaintance with Territorials was when I was home on leave from India in 1909, and I mention it only because of an interesting allusion to the late Lord Kitchener. The Territorial movement was then in its infancy, and steps were being taken in all counties to boom it hard. At one of the principal towns in Cheshire the local Mayor convened a big meeting in the Town Hall to be preceded by a banquet. I was invited to dine, and respond to the toast of the Army and Navy.

The whole affair was rather peculiar. At the end of the large hall was a stage; on this raised platform some forty of us dined in uniform and evening dress, while territorials, would-be territorials, their wives and sweethearts, together with hundreds of townsfolk, filed in and took their seats. After dinner the Mayor proposed the usual toasts, and when responding for the Services I began with regrets regarding my colossal ignorance of the Navy, and continued with a eulogy of Lord Haldane as War Secretary, giving some details of his wonderful scheme for a citizen army. The facts about the expansible framework of his plan, evolved with so much foresight, seemed to interest my audience, and I passed on to some comments on voluntary soldiering just made at Calcutta by the Commander-in-Chief in India. No sooner were the words " Lord Kitchener " out of my mouth than the hall, which was now crammed, burst into cheers, which lasted for several minutes.

This took me greatly aback, as I had no idea our Chief in the year 1909 had such a hold on the British public. He had been nearly seven years in India, and I thought he had been forgotten. Waiting for the applause to subside I continued my harangue, saying I was delighted to hear so much cheering, because Lord Kitchener—here I had to stop again, for as the audience warmed up the cheering was more deafening than ever. And this was a little country town! I wanted to tell them that Lord Kitchener was Colonel of my regiment, but had to desist.

As regards Lord Haldane, I would like to take this opportunity of correcting an unfortunate mistake I made in my book " Under Ten Viceroys," when I said that he resigned his seat in the Cabinet on the declaration of war. How I managed to make such an egregious error can only be accounted for by the fact that I was bundled out to India within forty-eight hours of that declaration, and in the interim, and later, all the news we got was somewhat confused. The strange thing is that I never realised my mistake until an utter stranger very kindly pointed it out to me by letter—too late, however, for a correction to appear in the second edition of that book.

Although somewhat foreign to the subject of my lecture, I should

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like to say that when you consider all Lord Haldane did for the Army, it strikes one that, as a nation, we are most ungrateful. There are many here who know much more about this matter than I do, and there may be some who were behind the scenes at the time. The " utter stranger " I have mentioned has confirmed me in my belief that Lord Haldane proved himself the best War Minister we have had since Cardwell's day; that he not only warned the Government that the war was coming, but also did all he possibly could to prepare for it.

When he was sent to Germany in 1912 his task was no easy one in face of the two existing parties there, one for peace and the other for war, with the latter growing stronger every day, and rapidly gaining recruits—amongst them, in the end, the Kaiser. But all this is given clearly in H. Begbie's " Vindication of Great Britain."

I have said that the subject is somewhat foreign to my lecture; but is it, when the *father of the Territorials* himself is so cruelly used and abused? Even Mr. Asquith—who was behind him in all he did—has only once protested in the House of Commons at the slanders against Lord Haldane. Somehow, when one gets the chance, it is difficult to refrain from giving some kind of tribute to this great statesman.

I know well that many distinguished soldiers, and others, feel as I do in this matter, and regard Lord Haldane as the saviour of his country. I need only mention four great achievements he accomplished during his tenure as War Secretary to prove that he was really the man who saved England :—

(1) The evolution and development of the Imperial General Staff.
(2) The creation of the Aldershot fighting force.
(3) The production of his Territorial scheme.
(4) The formation of the Officers' Training Corps.

My next experience of Territorials was in the summer of 1914, when I was again at home on leave, this time from my appointment as G.S.O. 1st Lucknow Division. As we had a large number of voluntary soldiers under my General's command, it seemed advisable to pick up all the hints possible regarding the training of the civilian army in England. Applying personally to the Horse Guards I was recommended to go to Maidstone. Nothing could have exceeded the kindness of the Kent Territorial Association. The Secretary collected all the Adjutants (Cavalry, Artillery and Infantry) at a conference, when the whole system of training was fully explained to me. I was amazed at the progress made in about six years, and at the good theoretical knowledge the officers must evidently possess, to be able to tackle the schemes and problems laid before me. I remember being especially struck with the week-end tours, during which tactical exercises without troops were carried out, often by means of the slow Sunday trains. The Volunteer Officers in our division derived much benefit from the notes I took back with me to Lucknow.

As you can well imagine, I had little idea in June, 1914, that within a few months we should be welcoming whole territorial units into India

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itself, or that hundreds of officers who had never expected in their lives to see the East would suddenly find themselves required to undergo four or five years' soldiering in various parts of Asia.

I was in Calcutta when an advance party of the unit for that garrison arrived there, and sent down a staff officer to help them. He reported to me that the two officers with the party were very cheery, and that they had brought most of the heavy baggage with them. The assortment of fishing rods and gun-cases he told me reminded him of Euston Station in early August! Army headquarters having foreseen the trouble that new arrivals fresh to the country were bound to undergo, ordered a conducting party from one of the eight regular Infantry Battalions left behind in India to meet each battalion at the port of disembarkation. These parties undoubtedly gave much assistance, but the fact that nearly all regular senior officers and N.C.O.s had been drafted already to units overseas as instructors, prevented the Territorials in many cases from getting the help of really experienced men.

Although, as I have said, I do not propose to bore you with figures, it may be well to mention that the total of some fifty to sixty thousand Territorial troops sent to India consisted of thirty-nine field batteries and forty-five[1] infantry battalions. There has been dissatisfaction and a good deal of discussion about certain promises said to have been made to the earlier arrivals regarding their ultimate disposal. The Territorials were, of course, sent to India for garrison duty in place of the regular batteries and battalions released for service overseas. They were sent because they were the only troops available. It is quite certain that many batteries and battalions arrived with the conviction that it was only a temporary duty, and mainly necessary in order that they might complete their training; that is to say, that in a year or less they would be transferred to the Western Front, with their place in India taken by units of the New Army.

Be that as it may, I soon became aware of a very strong feeling of dissatisfaction on this subject. By March, 1916, it was clear that the exigencies of the Service and the aggravated submarine menace made it quite impossible to fulfil any promises of return that might have been made. The officers were very sore about it, but I have always thought it speaks so well for the Force that this soreness never affected their keenness or their work, and that eventually all ranks accepted the inevitable with splendid spirit.

It may be as well to say now that where in my remarks on the exploits of the Territorial Force in India I refer to certain units or certain individuals, I want you to take these remarks as typical of the achievements, conduct and soldierly qualities of these troops *as a whole*. My connection with Territorials (some portion or other) remained unbroken from 1914 to 1920. During this period I had no less than three batteries

[1] 36 battalions before January, 1915; 1 battalion during 1915; 8 battalions in January, 1916.

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of artillery and ten battalions of infantry under my command at one time or another. As Inspector of Infantry in 1917–18 I visited some fourteen battalions more; as a Commander I had many staff officers of various grades who were Territorials, and while G.O.C. Abbotabad I met hundreds of Territorial Officers deputed there for the Mountain Warfare School.

One disciplinary case that came before me in 1914, when D.A.G. Army Headquarters at Simla, I may mention here as illustrative of the strong sense of duty which inspired the young Territorial soldier from the very first: a detachment of the Dorsets were guarding interned " enemy subjects " in a camp surrounded by barbed wire, not far from Poona. A German *détenu*, one moonlight night, began playing with the barbed wire, contrary to orders. He was warned by the sentry to desist. As he appeared to comply the soldier continued his beat; but as he reached its furthermost point he heard a noise behind him at the wire. Doubling back he found the same German attempting to escape, and with one leg already the other side of the wire. The sentry then ran the man through with his bayonet, and he died next morning. For some reason this case was commented on by the civil authorities, and it was actually suggested that the sentry should be tried for manslaughter. This I very strongly opposed when the matter came to me for review, recommending, on the contrary, that the man should be promoted for zealous duty. I am glad to say my suggestion prevailed, and the sentry became a lance-corporal. Now you don't suppose this man liked sticking his bayonet into that German? I expect he just hated it. But his sense of duty impelled him to carry out his orders. So, setting his teeth, he did it.

Even before embarkation for India the trials of the Territorials began. To complete units to strength many recruits, both officers and men, had to be accepted, although their knowledge of soldiering was *nil*. The reasons for this understrength were many, and here again I am hoping our Chairman may enlighten us. I am not sure I am right, but I had understood the main reason was because it was only in a proportion of units that *every man* accepted the obligation to serve overseas; in others an acceptance by, say, 50 to 80 per cent. left a considerable deficit, which had to be completed. Another severe blow was the loss of the regular officer attached to each battalion as Adjutant; he was taken from some units before embarkation, in others on arrival in India, and in the case of the remainder, shortly afterwards. It had naturally been the custom to rely tremendously on the adjutant, but every regular officer was badly needed with his own Corps, therefore each Territorial battalion had to supply its own regimental staff. As was only to be expected, the weakest point in the Territorials was their lack of knowledge of " administration " and especially of Indian regulations; this resulted in a great deal of unnecessary discomfort to all ranks.

I have already stated that one object in sending the Territorials to India was to enable them to complete their training; for this purpose

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concentration was, of course, essential. Every effort was made by the authorities to allot units to stations where they would remain for a considerable period, and where every facility for training existed; but the various necessities of a world-wide war, combined with an ever-changing, and at times menacing, internal situation, to say nothing of the demands of climate as the hot weather approached, made obligatory not only large detachments, when concentration was so necessary, but also frequent moves from one station to another. This was one of the Territorials' greatest trials. It was also very expensive for the officers. The Territorials themselves, not understanding the motive behind each detachment or move, were lost in amazement at the apparent want of consideration and uselessness of such constant changes.

Nor was it very long before Army headquarters called for returns (to Simla direct) giving each man's former occupation, his trade and his qualifications. As needs arose—and they came quickly—C.O.s found themselves, willy-nilly, deprived of their best men, transferred all over India as clerks, supervisors, mechanics, chauffeurs, signallers, machine-gunners artificers and every other kind of specialist and workman. This caused every C.O. to despair about the efficiency of his command for service in the field; as one of them said to me in a hopeless tone:

"What am I to do? The authorities think, apparently, that any blighter, even untrained, is good enough to fight, and that with such men it is quite easy to win battles. I can only hope they will not be grievously disappointed." I felt much in sympathy, and yet the constant drain was unavoidable.

Still more of the best N.C.O.s and privates were taken as officers, for in the ranks of the Territorials were many public schoolboys and others most suitable for commissions. When the question of the shortage of officers in both British and Indian Services became acute, it was found necessary to tap this source of supply. In many cases the boys themselves were anxious for promotion; orders were received, moreover, in 1915, which, after reviewing the situation, directed that all those considered in any way eligible were to *be encouraged* to apply for a commission; in this way hundreds of excellent officers were provided, but it did not tend to make matters easier for the C.O. Nor did he fare much better as regards his own officers, who were coming on fast. In 1916 the demand for more leaders became very insistent; Territorial units, like everyone else, had to try and carry on with depleted numbers, for C.O.s were called on to supply officers not only for general, technical, administrative, and personal staffs, but also, at a moment's notice, to fill the places of casualties in the field.

You will ask (*a*) how in these conditions did Territorial units get along at all, and (*b*), how did each one keep up its strength? They got along by the steadfastness and grit of the officers and men who remained, and their strength was maintained by frequent drafts from home. Of course these were untrained, and that was another trouble. The trials were, indeed, many; but it will remain for ever to the glory of the

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Territorials in India that, in spite of them, they never once faltered in their strides towards efficiency. Units, of course, varied a good deal on arrival in India in their preparedness for war; it depended a good deal on the amount of instruction they had received at home, and on the capabilities as trainers of their brigadiers, their C.O.s, their regular adjutants, and their officers generally. I should like to give you some facts to exemplify their grit, efficiency, endurance and achievements, which may be taken as typical of the whole. Early in 1915 I had under my command in Delhi, Agra and Bareilly the 1/4th Wilts, the 1/6th Hants and the 2/4th Duke of Cornwall's, and I was directed to subject each battalion separately to the " Kitchener Test." This was a very comprehensive kind of inspection, inaugurated by the late Lord Kitchener when Commander-in-Chief in India. It consisted of a series of situations made known to the Commanding Officer by the General taking the tests, and the whole carried out under war conditions, in so far as such conditions can be reproduced in peace; in fact it meant three very strenuous days, and all this time the battalion, having been provided with the necessary supplies and transport, had to fend for itself, protect itself, and undertake aggressive action when the situation required it. Other troops were utilised in opposition, and the General Officer concerned, with his training staff, was present all the time, and allotted marks for each performance as it was completed.

Brigadiers were given a free hand to modify the original conditions of this test as regards the Territorials, especially as the training season was far advanced, with the hot weather approaching. Personally, I cut down the total period to about thirty-six to forty hours, and generally began before dawn with a fifteen-mile march in field service order, each man carrying 100 rounds of ball ammunition. This was followed immediately by an attack with ball on a position prepared by another unit. On the completion of the attack the Commanding Officer was told to select a bivouac camp, arrange its protection and await orders. He was then—(as soon as he was in position)—attacked by other troops, and shortly afterwards received instructions for a small night operation, and so on.

I took the 1/4th Wilts first, as being an older unit than the others, and therefore more prepared; they came through the test remarkably well, the officers never getting flustered, and not a single man falling out in the long march. I was so pleased at the end that I told their Commanding Officer (Lord Radnor) that I envied him his command. Here was a typical case of a Commanding Officer who knew his men, had their welfare always at heart, and had taken immense pains to make his unit efficient in every way. On the return of my Brigade-Major, after handing over the slip containing the fourth " situation " as the sun was sinking on the evening of the first day, I asked him whether the Colonel seemed flurried, for I was not at all sure that I was not asking too much. He reassured me by saying :—

" Not a bit, sir; his only remark was, ' What, *another!* ' "

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A week later I was much struck by one decision of this Colonel's. Half his battalion was detailed to go to Chakrata in the hills, while the remainder spent the hot weather in Delhi. I gave him the choice, being very senior and new to India, of taking his headquarters up to the hills; he declined, however, because he felt he could not summer in the delightful breezes of Chakrata, while the greater portion of his men sweltered below.

It was now the end of March, with two units still to test: one at Agra and the other at Bareilly. As I knew well Agra's great heat at this season, it was necessary to hasten there at once. Colonel Playfair's battalion (1/6th Hants) was newly raised; the men were very young and only partially trained; moreover, the unit had been split up into many detachments since arrival in India, and had only just got together. The Commanding Officer was most indignant at the very idea of any collective test, for which he declared his men were quite insufficiently trained. I thoroughly agreed with him, and, indeed, had already represented the matter, but was overruled. Higher authority felt that some idea of the relative value of the various battalions must be obtained as soon as possible. As a matter of fact these Hampshire lads (they looked absurdly young) did very well. I remember the " overhead " covering fire in the attack with ball was so realistically bold that I marvelled at its temerity. Speaking to Playfair about it, he laughed, and muttered something about " Where ignorance is bliss ! "

There still remained the Bareilly unit (2/4th D.C.L.I.) to be tested; also very young, and with little help or guidance given it to date. Although we passed the starting point for the long march at 4 a.m., it was extremely hot by the time this was completed, about 9, when the Commanding Officer got the slip to reconnoitre and attack a prepared position. Owing to a misconception of orders later on, and the intense heat, the men had a very trying time, so much so that I was concerned about them; the Commanding Officer, however, was quite cheery, and assured me his lads would be as fit as possible in the morning, which turned out to be the case. They were Cornish boys of very sturdy physique, but young; their rapid recovery I thought spoke well for the grit and endurance of the men of Cornwall.

In the Territorials which came to India, physique and age varied to an enormous degree, the former in some units being excellent, while in others it was not so good. As regards age, the 2/4th D.C.L.I. and the 1/6th Hants were just lads, and there were many more battalions like them. On the other hand the 23rd Rifle Brigade at Multan was composed almost entirely of old soldiers. This was one of seven Territorial battalions formed in October, 1915, and attached to the Rifle Brigade. The men came from the " National Reserve," and at the outbreak of war had offered their services for any duty required of them. These men had been employed in England up to that date in guarding railways, docks and other vulnerable points; about 250 men of the 23rd possessed war medals, or long service and volunteer decorations. The battalion was raised by

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Colonel T. E. Turnbull, and came under me in Multan when I was commanding the Derajat Independent Brigade. Multan is a hot place, and the men had been there nearly two-and-a-half years. When I inspected them in the hot weather of 1918 it struck me that all ranks were showing the effects of the heat considerably, while their sick roll was a heavy one. I got them moved, and they were transferred to Bareilly, looked on as a very healthy station. Strange to relate, the men were less fit there than in Multan, where they had done some really excellent, though by no means exhilarating, work. Besides heavy garrison duties the battalion had to furnish detachments innumerable, including a company at Amritsar. The garrison gunners having left Multan, the guns and machine guns in the Fort had to be manned by the 23rd Rifle Brigade; fortunately their cosmopolitan composition enabled them to provide teams without any great difficulty.

One summer the environs of Multan were not only infected with cholera and malaria, but also with a very virulent outbreak of plague; this necessitated a strict cordon round cantonments, towards the city, involving heavy picquet duty, which was admirably carried out by the 23rd. One N.C.O., left at Amritsar as electrician when the company was withdrawn, was brutally murdered by the natives in the rebellion of April, 1919.

This is not a tale of woe, but simply a portion of the record of one Territorial battalion's sojourn in India, with an account of all it was expected to do, and how well it did it. There was none of the exhilarating excitement of hard-fought actions in the field; only difficult, arduous and rather uninteresting garrison duty with the thermometer reaching 124° in the shade. Such achievements cheerfully performed by a Territorial battalion of old soldiers speak much for the Force, deserve well of the State, and merit the approbation of soldiers and civilians alike.

A younger, but well-seasoned, battalion relieved the 23rd in the shape of the 1/4th Buffs under Colonel G. Gosling. This unit had been at Aden from August, 1915, to January, 1916, and therefore had qualified for the 1915 Star. Besides keeping the Multan area quiet during the risings of 1919, the men were utilised in the district outside this area to travel about in the hottest part of the hot weather just to show themselves, and, where necessary, uphold the prestige of the British raj. The unit built itself an armoured car out of railway trucks and sheet-iron, and christened it "The Multan Lamb." In this improvised vehicle parties of men dashed up and down the line to any threatened points. These services were most valuable, and the mere knowledge that parties of British soldiers could arrive in an incredibly short space of time at any seat of disturbance had a very salutary effect.

As a general rule, and especially with the older units, the Territorial Force was to be congratulated on its commanding officers. I have mentioned Lord Radnor: he had been commanding for some years, knew every man in the battalion, looked most carefully after the welfare of his men, and kept a strict discipline. Blessed with a good second-in-

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command, and an excellent body of officers, it is not surprising that the unit was in capital order. Later on Lord Radnor became a very successful brigadier. Colonel Harvey, of the 1/5th East Surreys, possessed the same attributes, resulting in an equally efficient battalion. I had this unit with me for a long time, and got very fond of it. All ranks were extraordinarily responsive. Colonel Harvey, after his regimental tenure expired, held commands in S. India and Hong Kong. Colonel Playfair, of the 1/6th Hants, was an old regular, and a well-known rifle shot. He was just the man to raise and train a young battalion of Hampshire lads. I am delighted to see that he is still in harness. The 1/4th Border Regiment, in Maymyo, Burma, owed much of their efficiency to their Commanding Officer, Colonel Waterlow, D.S.O., who trained them to such a high standard that they received wonderfully good reports.

Then there was Colonel Frank Johnson, D.S.O., 1/6th Royal Sussex Regiment, who achieved undying fame as the Administrator of martial law in the Lahore area during the disturbances of 1919. His many proclamations, all commencing "Whereas," are admirable models of how such notices should be framed. The firm, just and unflinching rule he established at a most critical time, not only earned for him the admiration and gratitude of Europeans and law-abiding Indians alike, but the honour of having his portrait hung in the big hall of the Punjab Club in Lahore. Beneath is no name and no inscription, simply in gold letters the one word "WHEREAS." A fitting tribute for all time to a Territorial officer of exceptional merit.

These few names are given not only as typical of the battalion commander, but also to bear witness to the valuable services rendered by Territorial officers in a higher and more extended sphere.

The county of Hampshire was very largely represented in India. Besides seven batteries of Field Artillery, four battalions of Infantry went out with the 1st Wessex Division on 12th October, and three more followed on the 12th December, 1914. In addition, the 9th Battalion arrived in 1916, and remained until October, 1918, when it proceeded to Siberia *viâ* Vladivostock. No units had a better record in India than the Hampshires, or were more genuinely liked; as regards the 9th Battalion, it is interesting to add that it was the only British unit to go to Siberia (except Colonel Ward's battalion), and that it did very well there.

To bring my British units up to strength when I was commanding the 4th Division at Chaman in the third Afghan War, the authorities sent me some hundreds of demobilised Territorial officers and men from Deolali and Bombay, details that were actually on the point of sailing home, and men who gulped down their bitter disappointment in the most splendid way when told their services were absolutely essential on the frontier. Splitting them up amongst various corps, I took the earliest opportunity of visiting them to address each party and tell them how much we all sympathised with them in their disappointment,

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and how greatly we admired their stoicism and spirit. I was most sorry for these good fellows, almost pulled off the ship—pulled off, too, just as they had said "Good-bye" to India, and, after so long an absence, were looking forward eagerly to greeting their wives, children and relatives once more.

There was a great deal of comment as regards the natives, and much excitement amongst the European population in 1914 about the advent of the Territorials in India. All Europeans, and especially civilians, were much struck with their patriotism and example, and from the outset did all they could to show their appreciation of the splendid way in which these *citizens* had abandoned homes, relatives, professions and trades to volunteer for service abroad, although in many cases it was a matter of much personal sacrifice, and often a case of great monetary loss.

On the arrival of the first Territorial division in Bombay, Lord Willingdon's warm welcome and the noble hospitality of the Bombay Yacht Club on the night of arrival in entertaining 97 officers of that division at dinner, aptly voiced the feeling of the whole European community. Later on, people vied with one another in fêting the men, and asked them out in batches to tennis, musical parties, picnics, concerts, motor drives, etc. All this came under my personal knowledge in places so wide apart as Karachi, Lahore, Lucknow, Multan, Bombay, Calcutta and Burma.

The Y.M.C.A., as usual, came to the front; what the Territorials would have done without that Association I don't know, for it made tremendous efforts to provide recreation, instruction, and amusement for the men. Especially useful and greatly appreciated were the lectures arranged by the Y.M.C.A., all over the country, on subjects such as India, the inhabitants, its wonderful history, etc. The Association also organised regular tours to places of interest, and without them few men would have had the opportunity of visiting in comfort such historic and interesting cities as Agra, Delhi, Jeypur, etc.

One wealthy jute merchant in Calcutta invited batch after batch of eight N.C.O.s or privates to his beautiful home, and entertaining them royally on the fat of the land, sent them out daily in his motor-cars to the Zoo, cinema, races, etc.

Nor were native princes and Indian gentlemen behindhand in offering hospitality and welcome: the Maharajah of Mysore himself received and entertained the 2/6th Royal Sussex Regiment at Mysore, and had them conducted over his palace, with its priceless treasures. This was a privilege never granted to British troops before or since. Entertainments and refreshments were provided in many cantonments, and at railway stations, by Indian gentlemen of various classes.

I know the Territorials were both touched and gratified at their reception; they were probably much surprised, too, but not as surprised and puzzled as were the ordinary natives when they first met them. To begin with, seditionists had spread abroad everywhere reports that

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England was at her last gasp, and could never replace the British garrisons sent overseas. When, after the latter's departure, fresh white troops came pouring into the country, there was much astonishment. In the second place, although the men occupied the barracks, and had similar duties to the old British soldier, still they seemed quite different; they treated the Indians with much more civility, they appeared greatly interested in all they saw, they never got drunk, and they never hammered anyone! Thirdly, they seemed to have much greater command of ready money, which they spent freely. A native shopkeeper in Multan put it very well to the local brigadier when he enquired: "Who, sir, are these new soldiers who have cheque books?"

It is a fact that the Territorial soldier arrived in the country with no anti-Indian bias at all; he treated the Indian quite courteously, but at the same time in his dealings with the native showed plainly, by his look and manner, that there was no question of equality. I was much struck with this as regards my Territorial chauffeurs, of which I had several, as, bar the first one, the particular man in office was called back to duty, invariably, after a short period. The first was a private, called Moore, in the 1/4th Wilts, and a better chauffeur never drove a car. He remained with me over two years, and got on remarkably well with all classes of Indians, whether native baboos, Mahommedan servants, Sikh and Gurkha orderlies, or frontier Pathans. A Lancashire lad I had later on further exemplifies what I am saying. My wife and I were starting out in the car, and being much afraid always lest her Dachshund should be run over, she called out for him: said the Lancashire boy: "If it's the dawg you want, I saw him being walked up and down just now by the *native lady*." Further enquiry elicited the fact that the man referred to my wife's ayah!

The Territorial officers' theoretical knowledge of their manuals was very good; it is immensely to their credit that they had studied them so well, and, in many cases, were able to impart the instruction gained. Early in 1916 I was much struck with a lecture on "protection" (outpost duties) given to the men of his company by Major the Hon. E. Strachey, of the 1/4th Somersets. He knew his subject thoroughly, put it to his audience in the simplest language, explained the leading principles very lucidly, and gave apt illustrations from military history.

There was very little crime in Territorial units. The men were extraordinarily well-behaved. Let me give you an instance: the 1/4th Wilts, from the time of their landing in India in 1914 to their departure for Palestine in 1917, had not a single courtmartial, and not one case of drunkenness. I think this must be an absolute record.

From what I have said you can realise easily that with troops like these it was a very delightful occupation to supervise their further training. The responsiveness was so wonderful, the eager desire for efficiency so manifest, and the keenness to make good so very marked. All that units required was help, guidance, and sympathy. I never met troops more susceptible to *sympathy*. Given sympathy, combined with

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a thorough understanding of their characteristics, idiosyncrasies and requirements, then one was able to get at these troops, when there was *nothing* they could not do. Little opportunity was given me of testing Territorials in the field. On the N.W. frontier, in 1915 and 1916, I had regular troops. In the 3rd Afghan War (1919) there was no collision with the enemy after I had taken over the 4th Division. I had, indeed, the 2/4th Border Regiment with me in the Mohmand blockade, but there was very little serious fighting. The men of this unit were of fine physique, and as keen as mustard. It was a great pleasure to deal with them, and to have a chat with individual N.C.O.s and men in the blockhouses. On one occasion a picquet of this unit, put out to protect the Viceroy on his visit, was threatened and heavily sniped by the Mohmands. On withdrawal it was followed up by the enemy with some determination. I happened to be present as the picquet was approaching our nearest blockhouse, and noted the extreme reluctance with which the men withdrew under orders. I saw that their eyes were blazing, and that they were full of suppressed excitement. Quite the right fighting spirit. About a month later I added a hundred men of the 2/4th Border Regiment to a column I was taking out to destroy some villages. The start was at 4 a.m., and the men returned to camp at 7 p.m., having marched 26 miles and helped to destroy two villages. It is not exactly child's play, pushing over strong mud walls, blowing up towers and burning houses. I thought the day a good test of endurance, and all ranks were very cheery at the finish. Most of their haversacks were full of fowls! I wish I had time to say more of subsequent happenings to battalions I was connected with, and after they had been fully trained and dispatched to some front or another. Some small detail of two units I can give you as an illustration of the fact that the battalions from India bore their share of casualties in the field:—

1/4th Wilts, from India to Palestine, 1917: Continually in action 17th November, and from March to September, 1918; had several Officers killed and wounded (including the Commanding Officer, Colonel Armstrong—killed) and about 35 per cent. other ranks.

1/4th Somerset L.I., from India to Mesopotamia, 1916:—

Killed	...	... Officers	3	Other ranks	105
Wounded	...	... „	10	„ „	130
Died on service	...	„	3	„ „	68
			16		303

In conclusion let me say I shall always regard it as a privilege that I was enabled to watch—and in some cases, I hope, do a little to help—the progress towards proficiency of a large portion of this fine body of Territorials. As I have mentioned, my connection lasted for a period of about six years, long before the end of which all ranks may be said to have become the "finished article." By that time they had officers

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and N.C.O.s possessing power of command—nearly all were certificated at the various schools; the signallers were complete and well trained, Lewis gunners and bombers handy with their weapons, while the men, confident, hardy and acclimatised, were fit to go anywhere and do anything. It is a record of which any body of troops may well be proud.

DISCUSSION.

MAJOR-GENERAL C. G. DONALD: As the General Officer commanding the Wessex Division who took the Division out to India in October 1914, I think I ought to get up and say a word or two. It has been very gratifying to hear from the lecturer of the great efficiency of the Territorials after serving such a very short time in India. That certainly speaks well, as he said, for the Brigadiers, for the Commanding Officers, and indeed for all ranks. It shows the energy and keenness that they put into their work, that after being such a short time in India they were considered as efficient as the lecturer has told us. I should like to tell you how it was that the Wessex Division came to go to India at all, and how it was treated on its arrival. The whole Division was assembled on Salisbury Plain at the beginning of August, 1914, where they began to train hard. Towards the end of September I received a telegram saying that Lord Kitchener wanted to see me at the War Office next day. I went to the War Office and was taken into Lord Kitchener's room, and you can imagine that I got a little bit of a shock when he said: "I want you to take your Division to India; will they go?" You must remember that at that time the Imperial obligation did not apply to the Territorials. I said: "Well, Sir, I do not think any body has thought much about it, but I am perfectly certain that if you want them to go to India they will go there right enough." He replied: "Very well, go back to your Division now; get hold of them to-morrow morning on Salisbury Plain, use your personal influence, and tell them from me that I want them to go to India, and that by going to India they will be performing a great Imperial duty. I have to bring white troops back from India to Europe, and I must replace them there by white troops from home. Tell them that they are to train hard through the cold weather in India, and at the end of six months I intend to bring them home from India and replace them by less well-trained troops. Tell them, also, that they will share in all the honours of the War just as if they had gone to France. Tell them, also, that I will come down to Salisbury Plain and say good-bye to them"—and he did.

The Division left England on 9th October and arrived at Bombay on 9th November. They received a splendid reception, due firstly, no doubt, to India being pretty well depleted of white troops, and, secondly, because it was a unique thing for British Territorials to arrive in India. The Government of India had engaged and furnished bungalows for the officers, and furnished the officers' mess with everything. They did the same for the sergeants' mess, and Regimental Institutes. Native cooks and, in fact, all of what is called the native establishment in India had already been engaged for the Territorials, so that the unit simply marched into its new station and found everything ready, which is not the experience a British unit usually has in marching into a new station in India. A few weeks afterwards, the Home Counties' Division came out and they were followed a month later by the 2nd Wessex Division. The three Divisions were scattered all over India and the Commander-in-Chief told me that he would not allow me to come home until I had been all over India and seen every unit settled down in its

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station. It was a pretty strenuous time, and it took me five months to get right round. During that time I travelled twenty thousand miles.

I should like to say, before sitting down, that the Territorials have a grievance. A good many of them have written to me and said that they thought they ought to have had the 1915 Bronze Star, as Lord Kitchener had said they would share in all the Honours of the War. The matter was taken up in Parliament; questions have been asked and answered, and I believe it has been decided that they are not to have it. I can only say that they are very sore about it.

COLONEL SIR STURMY CAVE: General Donald has taken the Territorials up to the point where they were handed over to General Woodyatt. I should like, with your permission, to say a little about the early history of the Territorials. General Woodyatt does not perhaps quite realise that the Territorial Force was the Volunteer Force, organised into a field army and called by another name. For 20 years before that was done, I spent much of my time and energy and what little ability I possessed in trying to persuade the authorities to so organise it. I was perfectly well aware that, as an unorganised force, if we were not altogether useless, at any rate it was very unlikely that we should be fit for service by the time that we should be wanted if war broke out. Nothing has gratified me more in what the lecturer has told us than the much-merited praise he has given to Lord Haldane and his scheme of organisation. I was never able to make any impression upon either the military or the political authorities. The political authorities did not want to spend the money because they thought it would not catch votes, and the military authorities lacked confidence in the Force and did not believe an efficient mobile army, organised into divisions of all arms, could be made of men so little trained as was possible if they had to earn their livelihood in their civil occupations. Undoubtedly it was a proposition which wanted some proof, and I devoted my energies, and the energies I may say of those volunteers who were under me, to endeavouring to demonstrate that it was possible.

After the Boer War, there was a Royal Commission, as you recollect, under the chairmanship of the Duke of Bedford, and many of us were called to give what is called evidence, I myself amongst the number. When I got home I wrote to the Secretary and said: "What we have given is not evidence, but our opinion. If the Royal Commission will accept some evidence, I will endeavour to give it to them. If they will send me a telegram on any Friday afternoon to mobilise (I was in command of what was called a field army of a battalion as well as four or five other companies) I will mobilise the field service battalion at Basingstoke. You can inspect it there on Sunday afternoon, and during Sunday night we will march to Winchester, 18 miles, and we will attack Winchester at daybreak. If the Royal Commission will come out and see how this is done, that will be some evidence." I went down to Basingstoke that night and I told the Company there of the challenge I had made. I told them I thought it would be accepted and that I hoped it would be a thoroughly cold, dark night (it was in December) so that the Royal Commission might see the stuff they were made of; and they were very much disappointed that the challenge was not accepted. It was not until Lord Haldane came that anybody, either military or political, would undertake the organisation of the Force. He did so, and when we were organised we got very scant encouragement from both military men and politicians. Some of the military were still doubtful whether we should be any good—not all of them. Some of them were convinced that we would play our part well. But this was the sort of thing that was said in public by a very great soldier, for whom I have the deepest respect. I know that what he wanted was the safety of the country, and he went about his business in the way that he thought was most likely to accomplish

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his object, but it was not encouraging to the Territorial Force. He said in 1912, after the Territorial organisation had been in existence for four years: "The Territorial Force is now an acknowledged failure—a failure in discipline, a failure in numbers, a failure in equipment, a failure in energy." I had a long correspondence with another very distinguished General, and in the course of conversation with him I pointed out to him that the most important factor in the problem of military efficiency is the psychological factor—the individual man's self-discipline, his good behaviour, his heart being in the thing, and the chance being given to him not only to go on but to keep on. But I could not convince this other gallant General. This is what he wrote to me: "Therefore if the psychological is equal or a trifle minus; if the physical development is equal or a trifle minus; if the educational standard is equal or a trifle minus; if our training is equal or considerably minus; if our organisation is equal or considerably minus; if our numbers are equal or hopelessly minus; if our discipline is equal or non-existent, it appears to me that we shall run, shall we say, a fair chance of a thoroughly sound licking, and deserve it, too." That is the sort of encouragement upon which we had to build up the military force which you have heard described so ably and so kindly and so well by General Woodyatt. There is just one other little detail I would like to add, because the General has told us that he did not know very much about these troops that went to the front through India. I would like to tell you what I heard from a distinguished General in that respect, namely, Lord Allenby, who wrote to me on the 17th September, 1917, from Palestine: "The Territorials have done splendidly in this war and you must be proud of them." He spoke not of those Territorials who were under him at that moment, because it was before the advance on Gaza and Beersheba, but evidently of those Territorials whom he had seen in France. Sir Stanley Maude wrote to me on the 29th October, 1917, very shortly before his lamented death: "I have had the good fortune to command about as good an Army as anyone could wish for. It was really magnificent the way they fought all through last winter and won." You know that most of his European troops were Territorials, and he says in his letter: "Amongst them, the 1/4th Hants played their part nobly, and distinguished themselves on many occasions." With regard to the 1/4th Hants, as the lecturer mentioned the casualties in some units, I should like to tell you the record of the 1/4th Hants. They went to Mesopotamia in April, 1915; they were more or less fighting the whole time in the front rank; and they finished up in Persia, from which they came home in 1919. They had 20 officers killed in action, and their casualties in men amounted to 700. The 2/4th Hants., which had two years at Quetta, 15 months in Palestine, and then nine months in France, had a great many casualties—I do not remember quite how many, but I happen to have a list of the honours they won in four months only during the fighting in France. One bar to two D.S.O.s; three D.S.O.s; two bars to M.C.s; and 19 M.C.s. I will not trouble you with all the details. They finished up with six bars to M.M.s, 134 M.M.s, five or six French decorations, and eight mentions in despatches—a total of 190 honours for the fighting of one battalion during four months in France! This was the 2/4th Hants, or one of the two battalions formed out of the old Volunteer Corps. There was yet another battalion built up on the nucleus of the two Cycle Companies of the same 1st Hants Volunteer Corps. This battalion was commanded by Colonel R. A. Johnson, who was one of my captains, and all four of his senior officers were old subalterns of mine. They not only went to India but to Vladivostok and spent the winter in Siberia.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR DUDLEY RIDOUT: I should like to pay my tribute to the value of the Territorials that I had under my command during the war. At

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very short notice one of the original battalions 1/4 K.S.L.I. that has been mentioned as having left England in 1914, came from Burma to Singapore to help us during the mutiny, February, 1915. Fifteen hours' notice was all they were given. They reached Singapore in the middle of the night, they were rushed off in motor-cars; for the next six weeks or two months they were in the field, and did extraordinarily fine work. After the acute period of the mutiny was over, I received information one day of an insurrection in Kelantan, 400 miles up the coast of the Malay Peninsula. At 11 o'clock a.m. I issued orders for the men to embark at 5 p.m. They were to equip themselves for one month in the field, and at 5 o'clock I inspected them on the wharf. They proceeded that night to Kelantan; a very creditable performance. They did extraordinarily good work up there. General Donald, the first speaker, has referred to a promise which was made to the Territorials that they should go to France after intensive training. I am glad to be able to say that in the case of this battalion, the 1/4th K.S.L.I., that promise was redeemed. The Colonel, who is here this afternoon, Colonel Garratt, told me of this promise, and I said that if the men could satisfy me that they could train up to battle standard, I would see what could be done to get them to France. By June, 1917, I was able to report that they were thoroughly efficient, and orders then came for them to come home. Their arrival in England was marked by an episode which showed their very high state of discipline. On arrival they were told that they were not to land but to go straight off to France. These men had been abroad for 2½ years; they had left at very short notice, and they expected at any rate a week at home before starting for the serious business in France. But they proceeded without a murmur, and I am proud to think that the Secretary of State wrote a letter of eulogy on the fine state of discipline which existed. The subsequent history of the battalion in France was a very fine one. It passed from the base up to the front in record time, and subsequently did remarkable service with the French at Bligny, where they won the honour, the Croix de Guerre with Palms, which was presented to the battalion recently by General Bertholet, who pinned them to the Colours. That was a very fine honour for a Territorial regiment to win. Reference has been made to the Territorial battalion that went on to Siberia. I saw it passing through Singapore and they were an extremely fine body of men. Later on, I had information from Siberia that they had created a very good impression by their smartness and efficiency. The 1/4th battalion of the K.S.L.I. has the honour of being the first battalion under the new scheme to get a full establishment. The lecturer has referred to the extreme efficiency of the 1/4th Wilts. I would like to say it was my great good fortune to have one of their officers sent to me as my G.S.O2.,and a finer G.S.O.did not exist—a man of enormous ability who not only took on the work of G.S.O. but became staff officer to the local forces, of which we had between four and five thousand. If the remainder of the battalion were like that G.S.O., it was indeed a battalion of great merit. I thank you very much for listening to me; I thought I would like to let you know that this battalion of the K.S.L.I., a very much travelled battalion, which went as far as Hongkong, New Zealand, and other places, did most extraordinarily good work, and was pre-eminent in sport in Singapore. One of the easiest jobs I have ever had was with this regiment, under Colonel Garratt. There was no necessity to drive them. They set their own training tables. It was not a question of working five hours a day in the tropics; they worked ten or more—they clamoured for more work, and the result is shown by their extraordinarily fine fighting at Bligny when they aided the French so nobly.

BRIGADIER GENERAL H. A. IGGULDEN: I would like to say a few words on this interesting lecture as I had command of a very large number of Territorials

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in India during the War, probably between 30,000 and 40,000. I would like to endorse every word that my old friend the lecturer has said regarding their patriotism, their excellent behaviour and the splendid way they trained on in every way, both as ordinary soldiers and as specialised soldiers. I regard it as very largely due to the correct attitude of the Territorials towards the natives and their general demeanour out there that we enjoyed, during the whole War, from August, 1914 to the end of 1918, tranquillity, peace and quietness in India. A great deal is due to them for that. I would like also to refer to the great sympathy and help that the Viceroy, Lord Chelmsford, gave to the Territorials throughout the War. Lord Chelmsford came to India as a Territorial officer, as a Captain in the Dorset regiment, and he spent from eight to nine months with them as a Company officer, so he knew pretty well what was what. Later on, when very large numbers of Territorials came out to India, it was a matter of great difficulty to entertain them, to provide recreation and various regimental institutes for them. At Bangalore I suddenly had 15,000 of them to cater for, and I recognised at once that to entertain and keep amused so many men was a difficult matter. I applied to Army Headquarters for funds to build recreation rooms and to provide means of entertaining them, but could get nothing. There was no money available for that kind of thing, and I was in despair. We raised a few thousand rupees locally, and I then determined to go up to Simla from Bangalore, a journey of 1,200 miles, in the hot weather, to see the Viceroy. He then and there gave me 50,000 rupees and a further 40,000 later on. The Maharaja of Mysore gave us 20,000 rupees, the Calcutta Turf Club 10,000 rupees, the Western Indian Turf Club 3,000 rupees, and so on. Eventually we were able, principally due to the splendid support that Lord Chelmsford gave us, to raise about 180,000 rupees, to provide the men with proper recreation rooms and keep them amused during their leisure hours. Thanks to Lord Chelmsford, in all the stations that I had anything to do with, I was always sure of his sympathy and help, and the Territorials owe to him a great deal for what he did for them in every way to make their burden in India as light as possible. I must also pay a tribute to the splendid work that was put in by the ladies of the stations that I was acquainted with. They helped in every possible way. They gave up their time to work in the canteens and in the tea rooms; they provided recreation for the men, and a very large number of them invited the men to tea every day, especially at Bangalore, where Territorials to the number of 30 or 40 were entertained every day of the week. For months on end the ladies of the station took them out to picnics and teas, looked after the hospitals, and helped them to while away the long summer days and the dreary times they would otherwise have experienced.

THE CHAIRMAN: Ladies and Gentlemen, as there appears to be nothing controversial in what has been said in the course of the discussion, the lecturer has nothing to add to the remarks he previously made. It is necessary to make a subject interesting when you are trying to convey information to people who want helping through with it, and the lecturer has provided, in the delightful manner in which he delivered his lecture, the jam which has carried the powder very nicely and comfortably. The subject of this lecture is the Territorials in India. Unfortunately, I was not in a position to know anything about the Territorials in India, but I am sure that everybody who was connected with the Territorials is extremely interested to hear that such an impartial man as General Woodyatt, who had complete knowledge of the Territorials inside and out, under very unpleasant conditions, was able to form such a high opinion of them. Personally, I have always been a firm supporter of the Territorial Forces ever since I had to do with them. I always believed in them, but the difficulty was that the old Army was a

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very close craft Trades Union and it did not like diluted labour. It was thought by some of the officers—I was not one of them, but I know a great many who were of the opinion—that it was not possible for an ordinary civilian to approach to the high standard which all of us in the Regular army had reached automatically. The National Service League was also against us. It was working very hard in those days, and the more the Territorial army tried to get on and the more we tried to improve our position, the more some of the members in the War Office used to set about me because I was trying to make the thing a success.

The history of the Territorial army in the late War is one of the proudest that can be imagined, even in the annals of our extraordinary army, because you must remember that it was a purely voluntary organisation. It was raised from every section of society. When I was commanding a Division I have seen the fellows at work in dark, damp drill-halls, sweating away, in places like Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, and London, and receiving no encouragement from anybody. Nobody cared a blow what they were doing. People laughed at them and hated them. I used to say to them: "Never mind, lads, you will get a crown of glory some day. It is always the people who are persecuted who come out at the top in the end." We were persecuted and we came out on top. I believe it was that sort of feeling that strengthened the heart of the Territorial and made him what he was. If we had been flattered and pampered by everybody, I really believe we might not have been half as good a Force as we were. I used to say to the lads: "Look at the early Christians, they were persecuted; they were thrown to the lions and eaten up. They tell me that even now there are some Christians!" So the Territorial Force still goes on, so the Territorial Force is still doing its job. I think that my friend, the present Director-General of the Territorial Force, will agree with me that even now it is not a bed of roses to sit in the War Office and be in charge of the interests of the Territorial Force, unless you are a man who does not care a blow, which he is not. That is the only way in which you can live in an atmosphere of that kind. I was very glad to hear from the lecturer that, after I said good-bye to these Divisions and they passed away in the dark at Southampton, they gave such a good account of themselves when they arrived in India. There is one little lighter touch that I might tell you before we break up. I went down to see the 1st Wessex leave on the 11th October, and some nefarious General sent a telegram down saying that all Regular Adjutants were to be withdrawn from the regiments that were going. I knew something about India, and I knew how troubled the regiments would be if they arrived in India without their Regular Adjutants. A certain Staff Officer came to me after dinner and said: "Well, General, what about it?" I said: "Well, all Adjutants are to be withdrawn." He said: "What do you think I had better do?" I said: "As Director-General of the Territorial Forces, and as a high-class officer, there is only one thing for you to do, to circulate it, but if you take my advice as a private individual, you will go and lock yourself up in a cabin and do not come up again until the boat is two hours down the Channel and then you can give it to the General and say: 'Get off.'" By these evil methods a certain number of Territorial Adjutants did filter out to India. With regard to what General Donald said about being sent for to see Lord Kitchener with regard to the Division going abroad, that very morning Lord Kitchener sent for me and said: "General Bethune, I want the Wessex Division to go to India; do you think they will go?" I said: "Of course they will, they are soldiers." He said: "I want to be quite certain that they will go. You drive down in a motor-car, see the General and see the Divisions and make certain that they will volunteer to go to India." On the way down, apparently, General Donald passed me, because they were not satisfied with my diplomacy

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and Lord Kitchener thought he had better see the General himself, so that we actually crossed on the road, he going up and I going down. I saw an officer of the Divisions, and said to him: "I am told by Lord Kitchener to tell you that after six months' training you shall come back to France and join in the battles." He said to me: "What do you think?" I said: "I am not paid to think, I am here to tell you." He said: "Do you think we shall come home?" I said: "If you ask me to promise that you shall come home, I cannot, but I tell you Lord Kitchener's promise." He said: "Thank you, I know what to think now." The pity is it was not necessary to promise all these things to the Territorials. From my personal experience of the Territorial it was not necessary to "kid" him; it was not necessary to humbug him. It only made bad feeling, which it has taken a great many years to eradicate. If they had been treated in an absolutely straight and honest manner, if they had been told—"Look here, I want you to go because it is for the good of the country"—they would have gone like a shot. We have heaped up troubles by promising things which it was not possible to carry out, and then, as a result, you have grievances. You have heard this afternoon how these Territorials carried out their work, and it is a great testimonial to the value of the Territorials and the Volunteer Forces. You remember that after twelve weeks of what was called "intensive training" we used to send drafts out to France during the War. The root of the whole matter was that the men became proficient because they had the wish and the will. Any Englishman who wants to do a thing will do it. If you take him by the snout and say: "Do this," he will say: "No, I am blowed if I will." But if you say to him: "It is up to you to do it," he will do it. Every Territorial General who has dealt with the men in that spirit has succeeded. It is all done by kindness. You can get these fellows to do anything you want, provided you treat them in the right way and in the right spirit. I am very glad that I have had the opportunity of presiding here to-day because I have the interests of the Territorials very much at heart. I was in charge of them from 1912–1917, and I was never disappointed by any unit or any body, with very few exceptions.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure you will agree with me when I say that we owe a very great debt of gratitude to General Woodyatt for giving us this excellent lecture, and I hope you will pass him a very hearty vote of thanks for it.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR NOEL BIRCH: Ladies and Gentlemen, I was originally told off to move a vote of thanks to the persecuted Chairman—for a persecuted man he looks very healthy—but it affords me equal pleasure to second the vote of thanks to the lecturer for his address this afternoon. We have heard a great deal to-day about the Territorial Forces, but there is a great deal more to be said. What we owe to the Territorial Army has never been properly put before the public. It was the cheapest insurance the nation ever had. We have heard what they did for the Empire in India; I could tell you some tales about France in the early days of the War when there was not a man to spare anywhere, and the more publicity that is given to the Territorial Force the better. These men gave voluntary service to the State and they saved the Empire, and the same thing will happen again. We have now got the Territorial Army started, after great difficulties. It is going strong, except perhaps in the south, where it is not going quite so well, but everywhere else it is going strong. I think I know most of the Commanding Officers; certainly I know more than 70 per cent. of them, and it is a most inspiring and heartening thing to talk to these men, who are giving their time in this unselfish way for the good of their country. I have very much pleasure in seconding the motion.

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COLONEL SIR STURMY CAVE: I should like to support the motion expressing the gratitude which we all feel to the lecturer for his lecture this afternoon. Gratitude is always a lively sense of favours to come, and I do hope that you, Sir, or somebody else will produce an Officer who will read us another paper about the fighting of the Territorial Forces at the various fronts.

The resolution of thanks was then put and carried by acclamation; and, on the motion of Major-General Donald, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman for presiding.

THE CHAIRMAN: Ladies and Gentlemen, before you go may I just call your attention to one little business proposition. The Council of the Institution are most anxious that Officers of the Territorial Army should become members of this Institution. Previous to the War the Force was well represented among the members of this Institution. Many of them, however, were killed, and at present there are only some 160 Territorial Officers who belong to the Institution, and of that number only 51 belong to London Regiments. We want, if we can, to increase the number of Territorial Officers, and if anybody present to-day can help us in that direction by pointing out to those Officers the advantages of belonging to this Institution they will be doing very good work.

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